

EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Glen Falls, NY

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Glen Falls for a Brownfields Pilot. Glen Falls is a small city (15,023 residents and 3.9 square miles) located in upstate New York along the Hudson River. Its proximity to the forest-rich Adirondacks makes it a gateway to the Adirondack region. The city's location has also made it a major supplier of paper and the site of manufacturing industries such as cement processing, textiles, metal fabrication, lumber, pulp, and paper mills for more than a century. However, over the past 40 years, many of these manufacturing properties have been abandoned and vacated as international competition, increased automation, and large-scale price reductions resulted in factory closings and lost jobs. The Warren Street Corridor and the surrounding neighborhood was particularly hard hit by these losses—the area now has a poverty rate of 20.4 percent. In addition, the numerous brownfields in the area have had a blighting influence on the neighborhood, resulting in a lack of investment and pride in properties and a perception of economic hopelessness. To begin reversing these conditions, Glen Falls identified the Warren Street Corridor as a primary target for economic revitalization.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Glen Falls, NY

Date of Announcement:
May 2000

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot plans to conduct an area-wide environmental assessment of the Warren Street Corridor as well as environmental assessments at priority brownfields sites in the corridor.

Contacts:

City of Glen Falls
(518) 761-3864

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 2
(212) 637-4314

Visit the EPA Region 2 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/r02earth/superfnd/brownfld/bfmainpg.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Glen Falls Pilot is to help the city spark the economic revitalization of the Warren Street Corridor by conducting environmental assessments and cleanup planning on priority brownfields sites. To help guide these activities the Pilot will convene a Brownfields Team to oversee Pilot activities, conduct community outreach, and obtain community input to identify priority sites. The city anticipates that cleaning up and redeveloping sites in the Corridor will create new jobs, expand the tax base, and jumpstart the area's economy.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Completing an area-wide assessment of brownfields in the Warren Street Corridor;
- Implementing a community involvement plan to identify properties for site investigations;
- Conducting environmental investigations on priority brownfields;
- Developing cleanup and end-use plans for investigated, priority brownfields; and
- Establishing a Brownfields Team to coordinate Pilot activities, including technical assistance and community outreach activities relating to the targeted area.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.